

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5079–S5113

Measures Introduced: Fourteen bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3241–3254, and S. Res. 581–586. **Pages S5107–08**

Measures Reported:

S. 3094, to restrict the department in which the Coast Guard is operating from implementing any rule requiring the use of biometric readers for biometric transportation security cards until after submission to Congress of the results of an assessment of the effectiveness of the transportation security card program. (S. Rept. No. 115–305) **Page S5107**

Measures Passed:

Expressing the Sense of the Senate Against Making United States Officials Available for Questioning: By a unanimous vote of 98 yeas (Vote No. 162), Senate agreed to S. Res. 584, expressing the sense of the Senate against the making available of current and former diplomats, officials, and members of the Armed Forces of the United States for questioning by the government of Vladimir Putin. **Pages S5098–99**

Appointments:

Creating Options for Veterans' Expedited Recovery (COVER Commission): The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 114–198, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Creating Options for Veterans' Expedited Recovery (COVER Commission): Thomas E. Harvey of New York. **Page S5112**

Commission on Social Impact Partnerships: The Chair, pursuant to Public Law 115–123, on behalf of the Majority Leader of the Senate, appointed the following individual as a member of the Commission on Social Impact Partnerships: William S. Simon of Arkansas. **Page S5112**

Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that following disposition of the nomination of Robert L. Wilkie, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Senate begin consideration of H.R. 6147, Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019. **Page S5112**

Bounds Nomination: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Ryan Wesley Bounds, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit. **Pages S5082–98**

By unanimous-consent the order that notwithstanding Rule XXII, the post-cloture time on the nomination expire at 1:45 p.m., on Thursday, July 19, 2018 was vitiated. **Pages S5087, S5098**

Wilkie Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that following Leader remarks on Monday, July 23, 2018, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Robert L. Wilkie, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and that the time until 5:30 p.m. be equally divided in the usual form, and that following the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination, with no intervening action or debate. **Page S5112**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, July 23, 2018, Senate begin consideration of the nomination. **Page S5112**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:
Eric D. Miller, of Washington, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.
1 Navy nomination in the rank of admiral. **Page S5113**

Messages from the House: **Page S5104**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S5104**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S5104**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5104–05**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S5105–07**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5107**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5108–09**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**Pages S5109–11****Additional Statements:****Pages S5103–04****Authorities for Committees to Meet:****Pages S5111–12**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—162)

Page S5099

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:20 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, July 23, 2018. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5112.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Kathleen Laura Kraninger, of Ohio, to be Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and Kimberly A. Reed, of West Virginia, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

DEPARTMENTS OF THE INTERIOR AND ENERGY MODERNIZATION OVERSIGHT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine Administration reorganization and modernization proposals related to the Department of Energy and the Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from Susan Combs, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior; and Bernard L. McNamee II, Executive Director of the Office of Policy, Department of Energy.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Mary Bridget Neumayr, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality, who was introduced by Representative Upton, and

John Fleming, of Louisiana, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, who was introduced by Senator Cassidy, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Charles P. Rettig, of California, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Department of the Treasury.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Dennis Dean Kirk, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and to be Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board, Julia Akins Clark, of Maryland, and Andrew F. Maunz, of Ohio, both to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and Carmen Guericigoitia McLean, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Britt Cagle Grant, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, David James Porter, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, A. Marvin Quattlebaum, Jr., of South Carolina, and Julius Ness Richardson, of South Carolina, both to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, Roy Kalman Altman, and Rodolfo Armando Ruiz II, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, and Raul M. Arias-Marxuach, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 26 public bills, H.R. 6437–6462; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 1004–1006 were introduced. **Pages H6587–88**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H6589–90**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows: H.R. 6305, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve access to health care through modernized health savings accounts, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–844);

H.R. 6301, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide high deductible health plans with first dollar coverage flexibility, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–845);

H.R. 6312, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain amounts paid for physical activity, fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–846);

H.R. 6306, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the contribution limitation for health savings accounts, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–847);

H.R. 6314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow bronze and catastrophic plans in connection with health savings accounts, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–848);

H.R. 6311, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to modify the definition of qualified health plan for purposes of the health insurance premium tax credit and to allow individuals purchasing health insurance in the individual market to purchase a lower premium copper plan, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–849, Part 1);

H.R. 6199, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include certain over-the-counter medical products as qualified medical expenses, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–850);

H.R. 6309, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow individuals entitled to Medicare Part A by reason of being over age 65 to contribute to health savings accounts, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–851);

H.R. 6317, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that direct primary care service arrangements do not disqualify deductible health savings account contributions, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–852); and

H.R. 6313, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the carryforward of health flexible

spending arrangement account balances, with an amendment (H. Rept. 115–853). **Page H6587**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H6561, H6572**

Expressing the sense of Congress that a carbon tax would be detrimental to the United States economy: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 119, expressing the sense of Congress that a carbon tax would be detrimental to the United States economy, by a yea-and-nay vote of 229 yeas to 180 nays with two answering "present", Roll No. 363.

Pages H6563–69

H. Res. 1001, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 119) was agreed to yesterday, July 18th.

Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019: The House passed H.R. 6147, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, by a yea-and-nay vote of 217 yeas to 199 nays, Roll No. 365. Consideration began Tuesday, July 17th. **Pages H6569–72**

Rejected the Quigley motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 182 yeas to 232 noes, Roll No. 364. **Pages H6569–71**

H. Res. 996, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6147) was agreed to Tuesday, July 17th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12 noon on Monday, July 23rd for Morning Hour debate. **Pages H6577, H6586**

Senate Referrals: S. 526 was held at the desk. S. 791 was held at the desk. S. 2850 was held at the desk. **Page H6577**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H6577.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6569, H6570–71, H6571–72. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a markup on the FY 2019 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill. The FY 2019 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill was forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

21ST CENTURY CURES IMPLEMENTATION: EXAMINING MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “21st Century Cures Implementation: Examining Mental Health Initiatives”. Testimony was heard from Elinore McCance-Katz, Assistant Secretary, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

CHINA’S THREAT TO AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION LEADERSHIP

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “China’s Threat to

American Government and Private Sector Research and Innovation Leadership”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR MONDAY, JULY 23, 2018

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 6199, the “Restoring Access to Medication and Modernizing Health Savings Accounts Act of 2018”; H.R. 6311, the “Increasing Access to Lower Premium Plans and Expanding Health Savings Accounts Act of 2018”; and H.R. 184, the “Protect Medical Innovation Act of 2017”, 5 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, July 23

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Robert L. Wilkie, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Robert L. Wilkie, Senate will begin consideration of H.R. 6147, Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, July 23

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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